

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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Raleigh, N. C.

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To Correspondents:

Write all communications, designed for publication, on one side of the paper only. We want intelligent correspondents in every county in the State. We want facts of value, results accomplished, of value, experiences of value, plainly and briefly told. One solid, demonstrated fact, is worth a thousand theories.

RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 13, 1893

This paper entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Raleigh, N. C.

The Progressive Farmer is the Official Organ of the N. C. Farmers' State Alliance

Do you want your paper changed to another office? State the one at which you have been getting it.

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"I am standing now just behind the curtain, and in full glow of the coming sunset. Behind me are the shadows of the track, before me lies the dark valley and the river. When I mingle with its dark waters I want to cast one lingering look upon a country whose government is of the people, for the people, and by the people."—L. L. Polk, July 4th, 1890.

N. R. P. A.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

*. A correspondent informs us that there are 236 farms advertised to be sold for taxes in the good old county of Robeson. Sad, sad, isn't it?

*. The Atlanta Journal has received the first cotton bloom reported in the South. It was sent by Mr. G. W. Austin, from Dixie, Ga., and was plucked June 2d.

*. One of the members of the Executive Committee of Wake County Alliance informs us that he thinks every Alliance in the county except one or two will be fully revived and put at work again.

*. The Concord Times publishes J. A. Stevens' letter and asks THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER to do so. It has been done. Now will the Times publish all of our reply to Stevens, editorially, in last week's issue?

*. It is stated that President Cleveland caught a blue fish weighing forty pounds the other day. That is nothing. He caught over five million suckers in one day last November, weighing from 110 to 300 pounds each.

*. Owing to sickness Bro. J. T. B. Hoover could not attend all his appointments in Martin and Northampton counties. He will return to those appointments as soon as possible. We are glad to hear that he is at work again.

*. Another North Carolina man has got the "relief" promised by the present administration. W. W. Scott, editor of the Lenoir Topic, is the man. He has a position in the Treasury Department and already thinks "times are better."

*. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company has discharged 4,000 men who were employed on their roads. "Plenty of money, good prices and great prosperity" are the several reasons why these men couldn't be kept at work.

*. In the report of the meeting of Brunswick County Alliance, written by Bro. W. S. Milliken, one sentence was printed incorrectly. The Alliance "flattered at the threshold of duty" should have been "flattered at the threshold," etc.

*. The only man that has been named as favoring the meddling with the Alliance charter is now dead. We will bet a jug of buttermilk that J. A. Stevens can't name a living man who was in favor of it who was an Alliance-man in good standing at the time.

*. As the financial structure has been undermined the business affairs of the country easily collapse. The Big Falls cotton mills, J. H. Harden & Co., Leroy King & Co., J. D. Kernode and Junius H. Harden, all of and near Graham, made assignments last week.

*. Mr. John S. Hampton, of this city, died at the North Carolina Insane Asylum last Friday. Disease probably caused temporary insanity and he was carried to the Asylum last fall. He was

well known among the newspaper fraternity, having worked on several papers here. He did journalistic work on THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER for a short time a few years ago. He was a member of Raleigh Typographical Union and of the A. & M. College Alliance. He leaves a wife and several children.

*. The last State Crop Bulletin says the blackberry crop is a failure in the western part of the State. If that is true the "good times" the News and Observer has discovered will not be much advantage to the folks up there. "Plenty of money" is poor consolation without a good blackberry crop.

*. Some of our exchanges say Jerome Dowd, Esq., of Charlotte, has accepted the "Professorship of Political Economy" at Trinity College. We wish Trinity College and Mr. Dowd all the success in the world, but wonder where they expect to find boys who know less about political economy than Mr. Dowd knows.

*. President Cleveland has appointed H. G. Smith, a "democratic nigger," U. S. Consul to Madagascar. He was in Atlanta Friday and the Journal printed his mug and a lot of gush about his smartness. The nig's face looks like an ordinary round two gallon pot, and since his appointment his eyes stick out about an inch, which represents the legs on the pot.

*. The gentlemen who was to be appointed "receiver" for the Alliance by the late lamented legislature don't seem to "receive." It is enjoying a little whiff of that prosperity we have heard so much about. If it wouldn't be "using money for partisan purposes" we would suggest that the late lamented be hired to hold another session at the expense of the Alliance. "It was the makin' of the child."

*. The "lack of confidence" is a confidence game that won't go in this shop. The people had plenty of confidence. They started enterprises, put up buildings, made investments, made debts and did many things because they had confidence. Now they want money and there is but little in circulation. It is simply a lack of money instead of a lack of confidence that has caused every day in the week to be a veritable "black Friday."

*. We hope the royalty of America and the newspapers will get through entertaining the Spanish Infanta, Queen of Spain or whatever her royal nibb is, and turn their attention to saving the country. The New York papers are full of stuff about her every day. The Lord Dunsen, Chief "Jook" or Jackass Plenipotentiary, or something from England, will soon come over and the fools will have another season to exhibit their tomfoolery. We are mortally tired of this royal business.

*. The Kinston Free Press intentionally or through mistake claims that the Economist is still organ of the Alliance. The Executive Committee relieved it of that title and it is only trying to profit by claiming prestige. There is no trouble among brethren in the Alliance. After being without the right of organ for several months Dr. Macune is crying "prove it" just for buncombe. Enough has been proven and nobody will ask for more. Any Allianced man reading his paper gets all the proof needed from it.

*. If the Charlotte Observer was half as well posted as it thinks it is, it would know that J. A. Stevens was a delegate to the last State Alliance and voted for the very transactions he is now railing against. And if J. A. Stevens and other traitors knew how small they appear to the eyes of the very people they are trying to please, they would kick themselves to death. The truth is, traitors to anything are looked upon, even by the greatest rascals, as unworthy of notice, and the best men in the Democratic party can not tolerate traitors, we are sure. If J. A. Stevens wanted to quit the Alliance he had that right and should have done so as a gentleman, not as a fool.

THE DESERTED HOMES

A well known writer has an interesting article in the Cosmopolitan Magazine for June, entitled "The Deserted Homes of New England." He says: "For the last forty years or over, the farm population of New England has been decreasing. Even the valley towns in close proximity to railroads and city markets show a depletion, and unoccupied houses can be found along the finest of our village streets. As you move back from the larger places and the railroads into the hills, the abandoned homes are found on every road-way, and many towns have lost half their inhabitants."

The writer attributes it to several causes, but the real cause is the contraction of the currency and robbery. We have no patience with the theory that it is "because farm life is not attractive." As long as farmers can get fair prices for their products they will not leave the farms or emigrate to new sections to any great extent.

PENNSYLVANIA MORTGAGES.

Pennsylvania is a great State. She is great agriculturally, great in manufacturing and in commerce. Her coal mines alone furnish employment to many thousands of people, and her iron mines are famous all over the world. Her farms are highly improved, equal to any in America. The population is mainly Quakers and Dutch, the most industrious and frugal people anywhere. The State has many large cities and markets in her borders, and nearby are the great cities of Washington, Baltimore, Wilmington, Cincinnati, New York and many smaller cities. She also is great in mortgages.

In 1880 Pennsylvania people made mortgages on real estate to the amount of \$92,046,674. In 1886 \$186,642,124 worth of mortgages were recorded—nearly double the amount. In 1888, \$194,839,253 worth of mortgages were recorded. From 1880 to 1890 a total of one million, thirty eight thousand, six hundred and eight mortgages were executed on real estate, making in all \$1,336,037,437, more than one and a third billion of dollars, or nearly one-half as much as the late war cost. On the first of January, 1890, the existing debts amounted to \$613,105,802. The per capita indebtedness of the State is \$117, or about \$600 to each family, being more than any Southern State reported, and more than any Northern States reported except Kansas, Nebraska and Massachusetts. In proportion to taxable value of the property, Pennsylvania is nearly twice as much in debt as Alabama and more than twice as much as Tennessee.

Thus we are demonstrating that the cotton States are not suffering like other sections and local causes are not to blame for the ruin that contraction and robbery are bringing on the people. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is taking the wind out of the political sails in this matter and our readers are storing these facts away.

Pennsylvania has only a little over five times as large a population as South Carolina and her debts are about one hundred and thirty times as much. Divide 130 by 5, which goes 26 times, and we find that the great people of the great State of Pennsylvania are about 26 times as much in debt as the people of South Carolina.

Now which is the biggest fool, the "calamity howler" or the man who says the United States is prosperous? Figures tell no lies.

TIME BRINGS CHANGES

Two or three years ago the Alliance petitioned Congress to pass the Sub-Treasury bill. The request was supplemented with something like the following: "We respectfully ask that the Sub-Treasury bill be passed, it being the best plan we have been able to devise, but if your honorable body can get up something better we will gladly accept it," etc. The members of Congress virtually admitted that they were not elected to pass the Sub-Treasury bill or any good bill and unable to get up something better. But the bought-and-paid-for sheets took up that expression, "or something better," and ridiculed it unmercifully.

Recent events give us a chance to reverse the words. Many men are making application for office and some of them cheerfully admit that if they can't get a big office they will take a little one. They say: "Dear, exalted, powerful Grover, appoint me minister somewhere at \$6,000 a year or give me something worse."

HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM.

We warn our Northern and Western readers, and especially our exchanges that have been publishing advertisements for cigar frauds claiming to do business at Winston, N. C., and offering cigars and "gold filled watches" at ridiculous figures. The watches and cigars are not worth half the prices asked. There are many reliable cigar and tobacco dealers at Winston, but they don't offer to sell gold watches and cigars at one-third their value. Handle no advertisements for those fellows and send them no money, unless you want to get cheated.

ANOTHER AWFUL DISASTER.

Friday another great tragedy was played on the American stage. Ford's old theater in Washington City, which was being used by the government for storing war records and for offices, collapsed, killing twenty-five persons and wounding about fifty, several of them fatally. It will be remembered that this theater was where J. Wilkes Booth assassinated President Lincoln in 1865. The building had been condemned as unsafe many years ago, but was propped up and kept from falling. The government or somebody ought to be held responsible, it seems.

At present excavations were being made for the purpose of putting in an electric plant. It is supposed that some portions of the foundation was undermined. Only the front portion

of the floors gave way. At the time 534 persons were employed in the building. All in the offices in the front part of the building were either killed or badly injured. A cordon of police were put around the building and two companies of United States troops were soon there to aid in keeping the crowd back. Within an hour the entire city knew of the terrible accident. Every physician and surgeon volunteered their services. In a very short time most of the debris was cleared and the crushed dead and wounded were carried away in ambulances. The weeping relatives of the hundreds of employees in the building were soon on the ground and were kept back with difficulty.

As usual in such accidents many narrow escapes are reported. Some of the clerks were standing or sitting on the part of the floor that gave way and by jumping at once were not thrown into the death trap. Many were buried in brick and timber, but when rescued were still living and most of them will recover.

HE HELPED MAKE THE "NIGGER" POSTMASTER.

Partisanship leads to amusing complications sometimes, as one politician recently found to his discomfiture and to the amusement of everybody else, says an exchange.

Mr. Rose, an aspiring and ambitious young lawyer of Fayetteville, N. C., called upon the postmaster-general to ask the removal of a colored postmaster and the appointment in his place of a white Democrat. On being asked for causes, the pompous young lawyer replied that the fact that he was once a menial ought to be cause sufficient. To this Mr. Bissell answered that so far as that is concerned we are all menials. "Southern Democrats are not menials of the President," tartly replied Mr. Rose. The postmaster-general smiled and called for a certain document, which proved to be a petition for the appointment of that identical colored man as postmaster of Fayetteville upon which the signature of Mr. Rose appeared plain and unmistakable.

The facts are that early in the Harrison administration the Democratic politicians and the colored Republicans joined in a petition for the appointment of a conservative colored man in order to prevent the appointment by Mr. Harrison of a white Republican, and this is how the colored man came to be appointed. The fact that he had signed the petition had been forgotten by Mr. Rose. The "menial" still hands out letters at Fayetteville.

SEND US THE FACTS.

Shortly after the election the people were too much excited to calmly discuss vital questions. For that reason we said but little about the many crimes committed before and on the day of election in this State. But no honest newspaper can pass them unnoticed, and now is the time to study and discuss these matters in which every human being in the State is so much interested and upon which the general welfare and perpetuation of our liberties depends.

In taking this step the object is not to break down or build up any party. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is not a party organ. It cannot afford to shield the wrong doings of any party. We are going to ask some person in every township and city ward in the State to furnish us, for publication, a careful, accurate account of all irregularities in the election held last November. Every article must be signed by the real name of the writer and no statements are wanted unless they can be sworn to by the writer himself if any one doubts. Did the registrar of your precinct fail to do his duty or dodge the election law so as to prevent legal voters depositing their votes? Do you know of any voters who were bought or bribed to stay away from the polls? Was there any intimidation at the polls? Was bogus ballots placed at your polling place to deceive voters? Was the boxes at your precinct stuffed in order to throw the votes out? Do you know of any frauds perpetrated by township or county canvassing boards? Were the votes counted in full view of any voters who might be present or were they counted where only those engaged in counting could see what was going on?

Remember we want no hearsays or anything that can't be established beyond a doubt. Members of all parties can have an opportunity to expose these frauds. If the Democrats, Republicans, People's party or Prohibitionists—no matter which—are the guilty ones, expose them. We will not ask the political views of any person furnishing the facts. The patriotic and liberty-loving members of all parties are asked to aid in throwing on the light, for the existence of our country depends upon this being done.

Constant and earnest work will bring reform.

ANOTHER POLITICAL CRANK LOOSE.

G. B. Alford, of Holly Springs, Wake county, has written a long letter to one of the State denominational organs, published in Raleigh, in which he inveighs against secret organizations, meaning, of course, the Alliance. He says: "I am surrounded with what I conceive to be communists and anarchists." Then he says: "I fear these secret orders have sapped the very foundations of the true Church of Christ, on which rests all civil liberty and every institution for the good of society." He next calls upon the members of all religious denominations to pray and move in concert that the evil may be checked. He also thinks the secret orders are gotten up by "the evil one" to overthrow the Church of Christ. He calls on the Christians "to buckle on the armor of the Lord and attack the great giant."

Gracious! What will we do? Well, first we will see who this man is that calls upon his Lord Jesus Christ so often in his letter and who is such a Christian and patriot. We find that he was chairman of the Democratic executive committee of his township last year. At the primary in May 60 or 70 men met, so we are informed, and elected delegates to the county convention. Alford and five or six other out and dried curiosities were not named among the delegates elected, however, so they bolted the primary and elected themselves delegates, came to the county convention and did their best to contest the seats of the regularly elected delegates.

Within the past five years, since the Alliance became a power in the State, nine-tenths of the churches have done better than ever before, the schools have been largely increased in number and usefulness and there has been fewer lawsuits and crimes committed. If G. B. Alford or anybody else will prove that this is not true we will advocate the breaking up of the Alliance from now on.

THERE IS A WAY.

We get letters every week from friends in this and other States saying that they have neighbors who would delight in reading THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, but are too hard pressed to pay for it. There are thousands of true patriotic, zealous Alliance members in North Carolina who have never been subscribers to this paper, and who never see it unless some thoughtful neighbor lends it to them. We know that this condition exists, and that fact alone ought to be enough to make nine-tenths of the men in the State hasten to join the reform ranks.

But still there is a way for every family in North Carolina to read at least one good newspaper, and they ought to do it. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER only costs two cents a week. You cannot do without it at that price and do yourself justice. Any family in North Carolina can afford that if they will just think right about it. Economize a little here and there and you can pay for the paper and never feel it. Work just a little harder and you can do it. Why, friends, one ordinary hen will lay enough eggs in a year to pay for it. Three or four half grown chickens will sell for enough to pay for it a year. Three or four pounds of butter will do the same. There is a way for everybody to read it. You cannot afford to do without it and expect to keep up with what is going on. Every number is an encyclopedia of useful facts, figures and general information. It is a school teacher. Every issue of it gives you as much or more information than a great political speaker that you might go miles to hear would give. In addition, you get all the latest news of the State and the cream of the world's doings every week. All of the important Alliance news. Children will read papers when they abhor books. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is a paper that you can afford to put in the hands of your children and with profit to them. Let's hasten reform by getting more people to read.

YOUR COUSIN PAUL IN A ROOKUS

Col. Paul Faison has raised Cain among the Indians. They evidently don't appreciate a man who boasts that the "ballot-boxes were fixed in the North Carolina," and who tells them they "had order fixed them out West." We care nothing about the Indians nor Col. Faison, but this is the first admission that great fraud was perpetrated in the elections here last fall from high Democratic sources, though it has never been denied, hence we publish the rookus with the Indians and what Col. Faison said: A dispatch was sent to all the daily papers on the 3d inst. as follows:

"Inspector Paul F. Faison, who was sent by the Interior Department to investigate the Choctaw troubles and has for several days been inquiring into the charges made against Indian Agent Bennett, has stirred things up in the Choctaw nation. Instead of settling

matters, it seems that he has made them worse.

"Yesterday a large mass-meeting of full-bloods was held at Sugar Loaf, in the Choctaw Nation, where a series of resolutions were unanimously adopted. After recounting the troubles and discussions among them, they declared that they have watched Faison's course, and charge that he is ignorant of the Choctaw laws; that he lacks deliberation and firmness; that he has been unfair in his investigations and that he has refused to summon material witnesses; that instead of conducting himself as a fair and impartial officer without reference to parties or factions, he told various persons that if they wanted to win and retain the offices of the nation they ought to have managed the elections as he and his people did by fixing the ballot boxes, and stated how it was done where he came from; that such conduct was unbecoming in an officer in his position and tended to corrupt and alienate an already distressed and embittered people; that he is not the man to settle this trouble, but will increase it; that in the interest of harmony he should at once be replaced by a fair, impartial, and discreet man, that they will not co-operate with any unfair man, and entered a solid protest against his further retention of his present position. Copies of the resolution were forwarded to President Cleveland and Secretary Smith, of the Interior Department. They openly assert that every charge can be sustained by ample testimony."

It seems from this that indignation meetings have been held at which the red skins declared that they have watched Faison's course and charge that he is ignorant of the Choctaw laws; that he lacks deliberation and firmness; that he is unfair in his investigations."

THE DEADLY PARALLEL.

It is not often that a shrewd editor makes contradictory statements in the same issue of the paper, but the News and Observer managed to do it last Wednesday. If you don't believe it, read and see:

"While the banks in New York have in their vaults 30 per cent. more than the government requires them to have on hand, our Southern banks are in excellent condition, and especially is this the case with the banks in this vicinity. Indeed, there is about \$60,000,000 more currency in the country than ever before, and the South has more money than usual, more perhaps than our just share, for we have just marketed at good price a cotton crop that was made at a very low cost and fair profit, while the West has a large quantity of grain on hand for which there has been no demand. Thus it is that the South is in the best condition and our banks show it. The conservatism and business ability of Southern men, along with their high character and honorable conduct, reflect credit on our Southern people, quite as much as their bravery during the war did."

"But can New York comply with her own engagements? Can her banks pay their deposits? Should demand be made upon them, how would it be? It is true that the New York banks have a very cautious policy, but it has been at the expense of the business of that city. On the 4th of June, 1892, the loans of the banks there were \$202,701,598, while on June 4th, 1893, their loans were \$146,000,230, a decline of \$56,701,368."

But the several contradictory statements is not the worst feature. The idea of a North Carolina editor saying "we have just marketed at good prices a cotton crop that was made at small cost and fair profit," or that "we probably have more than our just share of money." It is enough to make a wooden Indian cigar sign blush with shame.

There may be \$60,000,000 more money in existence, but you can't get it, no matter how much you have to sell, and you can't borrow it. It is in the safes of banks or the safes of some monopoly. The editor of the News and Observer and very few of his readers will ever be benefited by that. Away with such logic, such misleading doctrine.

BUNN IS CRAWFISHING.

We believed that Congressman Bunn, of the Fourth North Carolina district would fail to redeem any of his pledges, but hardly expected it this early. He was in New York recently and a reporter of the Daily Press interviewed him. The Press says:

"Congressman B. H. Bunn, of North Carolina, told me yesterday at the Astor House that a sentiment is growing in that State in favor of the repeal of the Sherman silver purchasing act. 'A year ago,' he said, 'there was a free silver coinage craze, but the outflow of gold to Europe and financial depression seem to have changed public opinion. The Congressmen of my State may now favor State bank currency, but not free coinage. So far as the tariff is concerned, I am in favor of a revision. I can't say, though, that I favor the repeal of the McKinley law. I heard from the administration yesterday that the extra session of Congress will begin about September 15th.'"

So the McKinley bill is all right now. It was simply awful before the election. Bunn says he is not in favor of its repeal. The "free coinage craze" is no more than we expected, but how does that jingle with a speech made in Congress by Bunn in favor of absolute free coinage about a year ago, and in which he showed that he believed free coinage to be the paramount issue. Well, how does his constituents feel now!